



**TROOPER BURIAL:** Casket containing body of Trooper Steven B. DeVries, slain Thursday morning near Niles in aftermath of bank robbery, is carried by

honor guard to burial site in Grand Rapids cemetery. DeVries was third state policeman killed in Berrien

county in 10 months. Other pictures and story on first page, second section. (AP Wirephoto)

## Terror Murders Probed

### 'Mau Mau' Gang Accused Of Killing 9 Whites In Chicago Area

CHICAGO (AP) — Sheriff Richard J. Elrod says eight members of a black terrorist gang charged in the recent murders of nine persons were apparently "roaming the countryside looking for someone to kill."

Authorities said apparently not all of the eight men charged had participated in all slayings.

Elrod told newsmen Sunday the nine white victims, including the members of two separate families, apparently were randomly selected by a Chicago street gang he said called itself "De Mau Mau."

When asked about possible racial motivation, Elrod said, "I can see no other apparent motivation."

Six men are being held without bond, two others are still being sought. The murders took place in the Illinois communities of Barrington Hills, Monee, Highland Park and Carbondale.

Elrod, the Cook County sheriff, said the De Mau Mau organization apparently was founded several years ago by Vietnam veterans who had been dishonorably discharged.

Charles G. Hurst Jr., president of Malcolm X College in Chicago, said three of the men charged had been students there, but he said they had been dismissed. He declined to elaborate.

The most widely reported of the murders was the killing of a retired insurance executive and three members of his family Aug. 4 in the wealthy Chicago suburb of Barrington Hills.

Paul Corbett, 67; his wife, Marion, 57, and his sister-in-law, Dorothy Derry, 60, were found shot through the backs of their heads. Corbett's stepdaughter, Barbara Board, 22, was found dead a few feet away. She had been shot through the heart.

A month later, three members of a rural Monee family were found shot to death in their farmhouse. They were Stephen D. Hawtree, 47; his wife, Judy, 53; and their son Thomas, 17.

Police managed to get a deathbed statement from another victim, Army Spec. 5 William E. Richter, 25, who was attacked while sleeping in a parked truck on the Edens Expressway near the northern Chicago suburb of Highland Park. He told authorities he had been awakened by three men and was shot during a struggle with them.

The earliest slaying linked to the charges filed Sunday was that of Michael Gerchenson, 19, a Southern Illinois University student whose body was found May 3 some 40 miles from the

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)

## Police Hunt Hit-Run Driver

### Berrien Springs Woman Killed

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Police pressed their search today for the driver and vehicle involved in a hit-and-run accident which claimed the life of a local woman last night.

Dead is Miss Gertrude Volkmar, 62, of Leisure Living Acres mobile home park, 100 Niles avenue, Berrien Springs.

Her death is the 50th traffic fatality in Berrien county this year. Last year at this time, the county had recorded 41 deaths.

Berrien Springs-Oronoko police said the victim apparently was pushing her bicycle along the edge of the pavement in the 500 block of West Ferry street, when she was struck from behind. Police said driver of the vehicle did not stop, continuing west on Ferry street and Snow road.

Police said the victim was thrown about 35 feet by force of the impact.

She was pronounced dead on arrival at Berrien General hospital, shortly after the 6:30 p.m. accident. Police said she suffered massive head and body injuries. An autopsy was to be performed today to determine cause of death.

Only minor damage was done to her bicycle, which police said was equipped with a reflector on the rear fender.



MISS GERTRUDE VOLKMAR  
Hit-run victim

Tail lights on the bicycle apparently were not working.

Being sought for questioning is driver of a red or rust-colored vehicle, believed involved. Police said the vehicle may show some damage to the right front fender or right side.

Police also are attempting to locate the woman driver of a car following the fatal vehicle at time of the accident. She reportedly stopped at the accident scene, but left before police arrived.

Police said evidence gathered at the scene has been sent to the state crime lab.

Berrien Springs-Oronoko police are asking that anyone having information about the accident or vehicle involved contact them.

A \$100 reward has been offered by Leisure Living Acres mobile home park for information leading to the arrest and conviction of driver of the vehicle involved.

Miss Volkmar was born May 24, 1910, in Germany. She has no known relatives living in this country.

She was employed at Ravines nursing home on Tudor road near Berrien Springs.

## Accuse Rest Home Owner In Tax Case

Elsie Toth, owner of the Willow Fair nursing home in Bridgman, appeared Friday before Chief Judge Noel P. Fox in federal court in Grand Rapids for arraignment on charges of income tax evasion.

Judge Fox delayed completion of the arraignment, allowing her to consult with the federal district attorney.

She has owned and operated the nursing home since the 1950's and resides on Gast road, Bridgman.

William Rohde, a special agent with the Internal Revenue service, said she was indicted by a grand jury on Sept. 12 on four counts of income tax evasion, between 1966 and 1969.

According to the grand jury

indictments, her reported taxable income for the four years was \$93,016.34 and her correct income was actually \$284,374.95, Rohde said.

The grand jury further charged that she listed \$26,848.15 as federal tax liability and her correct tax liability was \$118,749.64, Rohde said.

The investigation was conducted by agents in the Benton Harbor and Detroit offices of the Internal Revenue service, Rohde said.

The maximum penalty on each count is five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Fabric Shoppe, 2008 State, St. Joe., Now Open Mon. Nights 'til 8:30 P.M. Adv.



**TO THE RESCUE:** An unidentified Benton Harbor policeman helps a resident of LaSalle hotel from room during fire at Benton Harbor hotel about 9:40 Sunday night. Resident was reluctant to climb down ladder until assisted by policeman. (David M. Arndt photo)



**CARRIED TO SAFETY:** Resident of LaSalle hotel in Benton Harbor is carried to ambulance by unidentified bystander before being transported to hospital. Man suffered smoke inhalation, according to firemen. (Story on page 8). (C. C. Brooks photo)

### Motorist Bags Deer With Car

THREE OAKS — Dale Emericki, 32, of route 2, Three Oaks, got his deer the hard way early this morning.

He told state police at New Buffalo that he was driving along US-12 about two miles west of Three Oaks when an eight-point buck ran into the path of his car. The buck was killed by the impact.

The accident occurred about 6:30 a.m.

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**SUSPECTS:** Four of eight suspects charged with the slayings of 10 persons in four different Illinois locations are shown as they leave Fifth District Cook County Circuit Court in Oak Lawn, early Sunday. They are identified as: Reuben Taylor (top, left); Michael Clark (top, right); Nathaniel Burse (lower left); and Donald Taylor (lower right). (AP Wirephoto)



**MURDER VICTIMS:** Seven of 10 Chicago-area murder victims are (left to right) Mrs. Dorothy Derry, Paul M. Corbett, Michael Gerchenson, Judy Hawtree, Kathleen

Feine, Stephen D. Hawtree and Thomas Hawtree. Eight men are charged with the 10 murders. (AP Wirephoto)

# THE HERALD-PRESS

## Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher  
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

### Veterans Day Reaffirms Vital U.S. Tradition

Veterans Day will be observed on October 23 in most states across the U.S. All veterans of the Armed Forces have been honored on this day since 1954 when Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I, was changed to the broader observance of Veterans Day.

With resurging patriotism, this ob-

### It Gets Harder To Be Informed

"Ignorance of the law is no excuse," say the courts. Is that so? There are now more than two million federal, state and local laws, with more than 100,000 new ones in the process of being enacted.

### Sex-Changing Fish May Herald What's To Come

Scientists have discovered a funny thing about a little fish inhabiting Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

It seems that the basic social unit among "Labroides dimidiatus," commonly called wrasse, is a male with a harem of three to six females. The male dominates the females and the larger females dominate the smaller females.

The funny thing is that when the male dies, the No. 1 female begins to undergo a sex reversal, and after 14 to 18 days becomes a biologically true male. She—

### Wonder Who'll Pull It Then?

Have you taken a look lately at the growing number of folks on the Welfare Wagon? Who's going to pull the wagon when everyone wants to ride?

### West Germans Say U.S. Drug Industry Hamstrung

One of the most damning indictments of government overregulation of the U.S. pharmaceutical industry has come from the findings of a meticulous study of the world's medical, pharmaceutical and chemical literature by two West German scientists.

Summarizing these findings, Barron's National Business and Financial Weekly comments: "American physicians and their patients have access to no more than one quarter of the new remedies developed by U.S. pharmaceutical laboratories at home and abroad. The rest, by law, may go only to foreigners. To make matters worse, the U.S. has forfeited first place as a discoverer of new drugs to France...." Despite the fact that

### They're Still Not Fastening Belts

Between 75 and 80 per cent of all cars in the U.S. now have safety belts and 2,500 to 3,000 lives a year are saved by belts, estimates the Department of Transportation. However, only about one in three motorists fastens his belt regularly.

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12 mo. - \$30; 6 mo. - \$17.50; 3 mo. - \$9.50; 1 mo. - \$5.00  
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12 mo. - \$785; 6 mo. - \$397.50; 3 mo. - \$236.50; 1 mo. - \$156.00  
12 mo. - \$790; 6 mo. - \$400.00; 3 mo. - \$238.00; 1 mo. - \$157.00  
12 mo. - \$795; 6 mo. - \$402.50; 3 mo. - \$239.50; 1 mo. - \$158.00  
12 mo. - \$800; 6 mo. - \$405.00; 3 mo. - \$241.00; 1 mo. - \$159.00  
12 mo. - \$805; 6 mo. - \$407.50; 3 mo. - \$242.50; 1 mo. - \$160.00  
12 mo. - \$810; 6 mo. - \$410.00; 3 mo. - \$244.00; 1 mo. - \$161.00  
12 mo. - \$815; 6 mo. - \$412.50; 3 mo. - \$245.50; 1 mo. - \$162.00  
12 mo. - \$820; 6 mo. - \$415.00; 3 mo. - \$247.00; 1 mo. - \$163.00  
12 mo. - \$825; 6 mo. - \$417.50; 3 mo. - \$248.50; 1 mo. - \$164.00  
12 mo. - \$830; 6 mo. - \$420.00; 3 mo. - \$250.00; 1 mo. - \$165.00  
12 mo. - \$835; 6 mo. - \$422.50; 3 mo. - \$251.50; 1 mo. - \$166.00  
12 mo. - \$840; 6 mo. - \$425.00; 3 mo. - \$253.00; 1 mo. - \$167.00  
12 mo. - \$845; 6 mo. - \$427.50; 3 mo. - \$254.50; 1 mo. - \$168.00  
12 mo. - \$850; 6 mo. - \$430.00; 3 mo. - \$256.00; 1 mo. - \$169.00  
12 mo. - \$855; 6 mo. - \$432.50; 3 mo. - \$257.50; 1 mo. - \$170.00  
12 mo. - \$860; 6 mo. - \$435.00; 3 mo. - \$259.00; 1 mo. - \$171.00  
12 mo. - \$865; 6 mo. - \$437.50; 3 mo. - \$260.50; 1 mo. - \$172.00  
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12 mo. - \$925; 6 mo. - \$467.50; 3 mo. - \$278.50; 1 mo. - \$184.00  
12 mo. - \$930; 6 mo. - \$470.00; 3 mo. - \$280.00; 1 mo. - \$185.00  
12 mo. - \$935; 6 mo. - \$472.50; 3 mo. - \$281.50; 1 mo. - \$186.00  
12 mo. - \$940; 6 mo. - \$475.00; 3 mo. - \$283.00; 1 mo. - \$187.00  
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12 mo. - \$960; 6 mo. - \$485.00; 3 mo. - \$289.00; 1 mo. - \$191.00  
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12 mo. - \$970; 6 mo. - \$490.00; 3 mo. - \$292.00; 1 mo. - \$193.00  
12 mo. - \$975; 6 mo. - \$492.50; 3 mo. - \$293.50; 1 mo. - \$194.00  
12 mo. - \$980; 6 mo. - \$495.00; 3 mo. - \$295.00; 1 mo. - \$195.00  
12 mo. - \$985; 6 mo. - \$497.50; 3 mo. - \$296.50; 1 mo. - \$196.00  
12 mo. - \$990; 6 mo. - \$500.00; 3 mo. - \$298.00; 1 mo. - \$197.00  
12 mo. - \$995; 6 mo. - \$502.50; 3 mo. - \$299.50; 1 mo. - \$198.00  
12 mo. - \$1000; 6 mo. - \$505.00; 3 mo. - \$301.00; 1 mo. - \$199.00  
12 mo. - \$1005; 6 mo. - \$507.50; 3 mo. - \$302.50; 1 mo. - \$200.00  
12 mo. - \$1010; 6 mo. - \$510.00; 3 mo. - \$304.00; 1 mo. - \$201.00  
12 mo. - \$1015; 6 mo. - \$512.50; 3 mo. - \$305.50; 1 mo. - \$202.00  
12 mo. - \$1020; 6 mo. - \$515.00; 3 mo. - \$307.00; 1 mo. - \$203.00  
12 mo. - \$1025; 6 mo. - \$517.50; 3 mo. - \$308.50; 1 mo. - \$204.00  
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12 mo. - \$1035; 6 mo. - \$522.50; 3 mo. - \$311.50; 1 mo. - \$206.00  
12 mo. - \$1040; 6 mo. - \$525.00; 3 mo. - \$313.00; 1 mo. - \$207.00  
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12 mo. - \$1050; 6 mo. - \$530.00; 3 mo. - \$316.00; 1 mo. - \$209.00  
12 mo. - \$1055; 6 mo. - \$532.50; 3 mo. - \$317.50; 1 mo. - \$210.00  
12 mo. - \$1060; 6 mo. - \$535.00; 3 mo. - \$319.00; 1 mo. - \$211.00  
12 mo. - \$1065; 6 mo. - \$537.50; 3 mo. - \$320.50; 1 mo. - \$212.00  
12 mo. - \$1070; 6 mo. - \$540.00; 3 mo. - \$322.00; 1 mo. - \$213.00  
12 mo. - \$1075; 6 mo. - \$542.50; 3 mo. - \$323.50; 1 mo. - \$214.00  
12 mo. - \$1080; 6 mo. - \$545.00; 3 mo. - \$325.00; 1 mo. - \$215.00  
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12 mo. - \$1110; 6 mo. - \$560.00; 3 mo. - \$334.00; 1 mo. - \$221.00  
12 mo. - \$1115; 6 mo. - \$562.50; 3 mo. - \$335.50; 1 mo. - \$222.00  
12 mo. - \$1120; 6 mo. - \$565.00; 3 mo. - \$337.00; 1 mo. - \$223.00  
12 mo. - \$1125; 6 mo. - \$567.50; 3 mo. - \$3

## Univex Gets Back On Profits Track



UNIVEX PLANT is one of most modern binderies in U.S. and is a local landmark, visible from I-94 near Empire avenue crossing. Benton Harbor firm has done

a turnaround, showing a profit after the first loss in its 10-year history during fiscal 1972.

### Twin Cities Binder Firm Notes Increase In Sales



GEORGE F. SNELGROVE  
Univex President

Univex, one of the Twin Cities' industrial success stories until little over a year ago, is back on the track.

The firm, formally known as Univex Looseleaf Corporation, reported a 16 per cent increase in incoming orders and a 15 per cent increase in shipments for the first fiscal quarter ending Sept. 30, according to George F. Snelgrove, president.

The firm's annual sales are now "in the \$3 million range and growing," Snelgrove said.

He also reported that all Univex's consumer subsidiaries have been sold to Ronald B. Miller, who moved the subsidiaries to Grand Rapids. Included were the Frederick Hirschner Pharmaceutical Co., Davron Corp. — a mail order operation, and David E. Matthews, Inc., an advertising company.

While Univex experienced the first loss in its 10-year history during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, the established leader in the custom binder industry "remains in sound financial condition," President Snelgrove reported.

"Modest earnings are projected for the quarter just ended," Snelgrove said, "with an excellent prognosis for good earnings in fiscal 1973."

The firm's 110,000 square-foot bindery off I-94 at the Empire avenue crossing is a local landmark. It employs 112 people and is one of the most modern plants of its kind in the U.S.

Snelgrove has been president, director and chief operating officer of Univex since March of this year. He came here from Rochester, N.Y., where he was a management consultant with D.B. Hutto & Associates. He is also a director of Oil-Dri Corp. of America, a miner and processor of industrial absorbents headquartered in Chicago. He and his wife and their four children, ranging in

age from 10 to 14, reside at 514 Botham avenue, St. Joseph.

Univex was founded in 1962 by Douglas E. Miller, who is still the sole owner of the company. Miller now resides in Denver, Colo.

Ronald Miller, who bought the Univex subsidiaries, is a brother of Douglas Miller.

Univex zoomed into the local industrial limelight virtually from the first few months of its decade of existence. Sales volume zoomed, and the firm quickly numbered among its customers such outstanding

industrial names as Whirlpool, Chrysler, Kodak, Xerox, Ford, Westinghouse.

Univex products are principally looseleaf binders (covers) for office records, sales catalogues, training information and instructional material. The binders come in a variety of shapes and sizes, embossed with the wording, colors and designs of each customer's choice.

Univex also maintains a complete printing shop for index tabs, office forms and sales literature.

## New Dimension Seen In U.S. Civil Rights

BY JIM SHANAHAN  
BH City Editor  
He admits being arrested four times.  
He finds the judicial system imperfect.  
He is a black Republican.  
He is a hawk on drugs. "It would be a damn mistake to legalize marijuana."  
He is a New York City criminal court judge.  
Judge William H. Booth Saturday addressed the

Freedom Fund banquet of the Twin Cities Branch of NAACP. In a pre-banquet interview at Ramada Inn, Judge Booth gave some of his views on the criminal justice system and civil rights movement. Among the points:  
—The civil rights movement is not dead. It's entering a new dimension of politics and economics.  
—Providing lawyers for accused indigents is an

"exciting turn of events . . . I believe the black defendant or the poor defendant does not have the same kind of justice meted out to him as does a person who has wealth. A person who has any wealth at all can hire better counsel, can pay off people. There are bribes in our courts all over this land. There are bribes of policemen. There are bribes of judges and prosecutors."  
—"I believe human rights

come before anything else. I am more concerned with the rights of the individual when he is before me than I am about the major society around me. I have to be concerned about society, but that one individual before me is subject to my power and will. I must exercise this with the utmost concern."  
—Judge Booth doesn't believe in preventive detention. "I don't think I can say that because a man committed a robbery last year he's going to do it again tomorrow. The bail systems need reforming. "Just because a man has money doesn't mean he's going to come back."

"Every time a man commits a crime he should pay for it," Judge Booth said that Friday he gave a first time drug offender a maximum sentence. He had originally paroled the defendant to a drug treatment program with the warning that "if you split from the program, I am going to give you the maximum sentence." The offender split.

Judge Booth traced his own "arrest" record:

Once for protesting discriminatory practices by a construction union; 1962 in Georgia for trying to integrate a hotel; 1943 in Mississippi for refusing to move off the street for a white man; recently in South Africa when he was an observer at a trial and was charged with being in the wrong courtroom.

Booth is president of the American Committee on Africa which has started action against The New York Times for advertising jobs in South Africa. He said the jobs are restricted by South African law to whites only. Hence the ads in the Times are discriminatory.

Booth was appointed to the bench by Mayor John Lindsay Feb. 4, 1969, after having served as chairman of the New York City commission on human rights. He has long been active in the NAACP.



CALLS FOR GRASS ROOTS SUPPORT: William H. Booth, a New York City criminal court judge, addressed Freedom Fund banquet of Twin City NAACP Saturday. At press conference, Judge Booth said NAACP needs more grass support from \$4 memberships to make organization stronger for the challenges of 1970s. He is a member of the NAACP national board. (Staff photo)

## St. Joseph Man Shot To Death In California

A St. Joseph man, attending college in California, was shot and killed Sunday night at a residence in Barstow, Calif.  
Dead at Barstow Community hospital was Pete Rodriguez, 24, previously of 4216 Lincoln avenue, St. Joseph.  
Barstow police said Rodriguez was shot once in the face while at a residence at 11:05 p.m. The shot, according to officers, penetrated the spinal column.  
Police said a 20-year-old man was arrested on a charge of murder after the shooting.  
Mr. Rodriguez was born Jan. 15, 1948, in Port Lavaca, Tex. He

was a veteran of the Vietnam War, a 1967 graduate of Benton Harbor high school and was a college student in Barstow.  
Survivors include his father, Julian of Mexico; five brothers, Julian of Benton Harbor, Mario of Tice, Fla., Marco and David of St. Joseph and John with the Army stationed in Maryland; and six sisters, Mrs. Thomas (Delores) Pitts of St. Joseph, Mrs. John (Olga) Sterling of Coleman, Wis., Mrs. Richard (Lupe) Fassett of Columbus, Ga., Mrs. Alvin (Maggie) Jacobs of Buchanan, Mrs. Carl (Hope) Graham of Michigan City and Mrs. Carl (Irene)



PETE RODRIGUEZ  
Student Slain

McIlroy of Galien.  
He was a member of St. John's Catholic church, Benton Harbor.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete this morning at Dey Brothers funeral home, St. Joseph.

### Faulty Dryer Causes Fire In BH Home

Benton Harbor firemen said towels in an electric dryer were burned when the dryer shorted out at 3:14 p.m. Sunday.

Firemen were summoned to the residence of Michael Govatos, 1093 Superior street, and found when the dryer shorted it set fire to the contents.

There was minor smoke damage throughout the house, firemen reported.

### Traffic Fatality Is Ruling

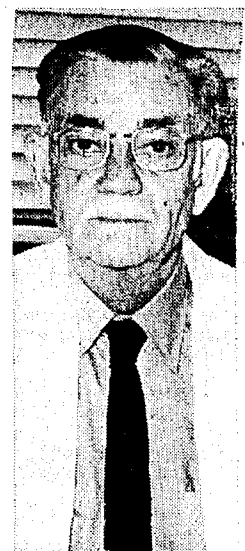
The death of a 20-year-old Benton township man early Saturday morning is being termed a "traffic fatality," according to

Robert W. Lowry, 2170 Berg street, died at 4:30 a.m. when struck by a car driven by his wife, Mary Ann, 20, according to township police.

His death would be the 49th traffic fatality in Berrien county this year, pending the outcome of investigations by township detectives, according to Det. Sgt. Raymond Frye.

**49**  
Auto Deaths  
in Berrien  
county in  
1972

## Dr. A.F. Bliesmer Ends 43-Year Medical Practice



DR. A. F. BLIESMER  
Medic, Civic Leader

Dr. August Frederick Bliesmer, St. Joseph physician and surgeon, today announced his retirement. He has been a doctor 43 years and a civic leader almost as long.

He will close his office Oct. 19 to the public, but will keep it open until the end of November for collecting accounts and conducting some pre-employment examinations.

His two main civic functions included eight years on the St. Joseph Board of Education, during the years the present district was organized and five years on the original Lake Michigan college board of trustees.

Dr. Bliesmer was born in New Buffalo and received his secondary education there. He attended Michigan State University and received his medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1929. He served his internship and residency at University hospital, Ann Arbor and his surgical residency at St. Luke's hospital in Chicago.

Dr. Bliesmer was married to Dorothy Hall Ward, Sept. 15, 1931. The couple lives at 2727 Lake Shore drive, St. Joseph. They have two daughters, Mrs. James (Janice) MacNichols of Mill Valley, Calif., and Mrs. Maurice (Susan) Johnson of Barrington, Ill.

Dr. Bliesmer practiced in Saginaw two years before opening an office in St. Joseph in 1934.

On the surgical staff of both Memorial and Mercy hospitals, he is a past chief of staff at Memorial and chairman of the Memorial Fund committee. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

He is a past president of the Berrien County Medical Society, Twin City Academy of Medicine, and a member of the Michigan State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

He has been a board member of the county chapter of the American Cancer Society, a member of Board of Directors of the Economics Club of

Southwestern Michigan; Board of Directors Coordinating Council; past president and member of St. Joseph Kiwanis club; past member of the board of trustees of YWCA and a member of Evangelical Reformed church.

While on the St. Joseph school board he was a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Association of School Boards and holds that group's Distinguished Service award.



OPEN AIP HEADQUARTERS: Officers and members of the Berrien county American Independent Party joined Karl Friske (second from right), AIP candidate for 43rd district state representative, at grand opening of AIP headquarters, 152 East Main street, Benton

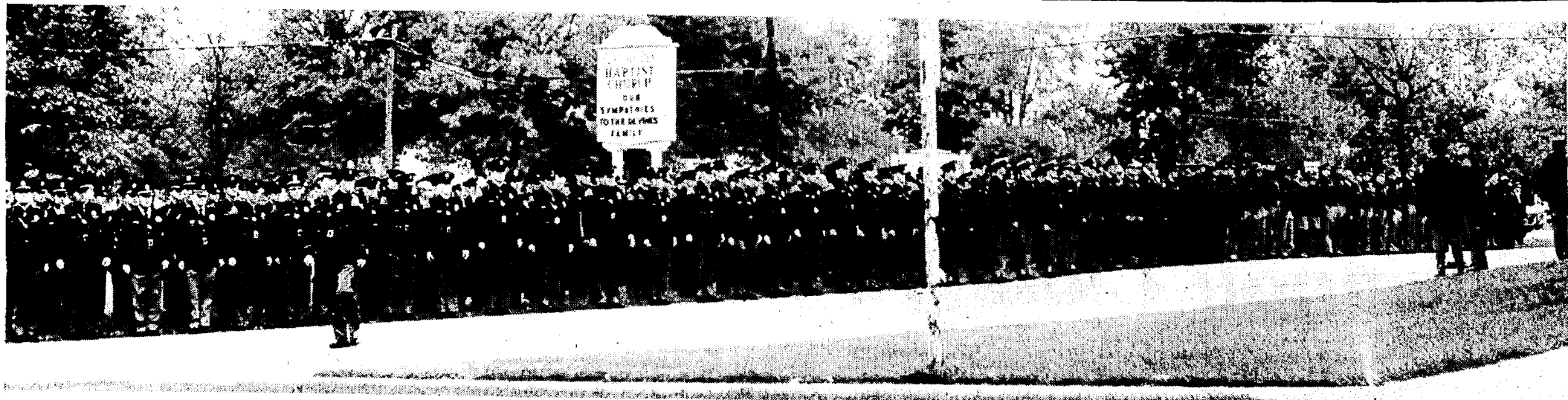
Harbor Saturday afternoon. From left to right: John Ockenga; Jeffery Roe; Don Wendt; Charles Cobb, county chairman; Friske, and Steve Barker. (Pete Mitchell photo).



# THE HERALD-PRESS

Section  
Two

ST. JOSEPH, MICH. MONDAY, OCT. 16, 1972



**SILENT TRIBUTE:** An estimated 500 police officers from four states paid tribute Saturday to Michigan

State Trooper Steven B. DeVries, slain Thursday morning near Niles by a gunman who may have also

robbed a Niles bank minutes before. Memorial service was held at Fulkerson Park Baptist church at Niles

before body was taken to Grand Rapids for burial. (Staff photo)

## Bad Weather Alerts Will Be Broadcast

BY STEVE McQUOWN  
Paw Paw Bureau

**PAW PAW**—Most public schools in Van Buren county will have installed in the next several days a radio monitor that will give school officials speedy access to emergency weather bulletins.

The new system will replace a slower warning method in which schools were notified by telephone of impending and potentially serious weather developments, according to Van Buren Sheriff Richard Stump.

Stump said that only the public schools in Bloomingdale and Covert have not yet joined in the system which costs each school \$169.50 for the radio monitor.

The sheriff and John Kakabeke of Kalamazoo, a retiring assistant fire chief and sales representative for a Muskegon firm supplying the monitors, gave the radios a final check Friday.

Under the warning system, weather advisory bulletins will be broadcast from the sheriff's department on a frequency reserved for the schools.

Stump pointed out that the most obvious benefits would come during the winter season, when sudden snowstorms could make bus travel impossible, or during the tornado season.

Under a previous system, when the sheriff's department received a weather advisory bulletin, the department called the intermediate school district which then telephoned the public school systems.

The school monitors can be operated either by current or battery and can be carried from one school room to another, according to Kakabeke.

The county board of commissioners earlier this year allocated some \$260 for the installation of a special tone generator at the sheriff's department.

The tone generator alerts school officials, with a beep, of a bulletin that is to follow.



**WIDOW:** Mrs. Ardena DeVries, widow of slain Trooper Steven B. DeVries, is escorted through honor guard from church by members of family and state police

official Saturday. Officer was slain Thursday morning on his first day back on duty after hunting vacation.

## Slain Trooper Hailed As 'One Of The Best'

BY LYLE SUMERIX  
South Berrien Bureau

**NILES**—An estimated 500 police officers from four states paid final tribute Saturday to Trooper Steven B. DeVries, gunned down Thursday morning just outside of this city by a man believed fleeing from a bank robbery.

The officers and others gathered here at the Fulkerson Park Baptist church for memorial services before the body was transported to Grand Rapids for burial.

DeVries, 32, the father of two youngsters, had just returned to duty Thursday morning from a hunting vacation when he was killed. He had apparently stopped the bank robber's car without knowing of the robbery at the westside branch of the First National Bank of Southwestern Michigan.

While the services were in progress, his accused killer, Kenneth Eugene Oliver, 32, Detroit, was being arraigned in court on charges of first degree murder and bank robbery. He had been captured in South Bend, Ind., Friday night. None of the \$38,700 taken in the

holdup, however, was recovered.

The Rev. Larry Whiteford, church pastor, said "Steve was not just one of the good guys. He was one of the best."

The 900-seat church, of which Trooper DeVries was an active member, was filled to overflowing with officers and other mourners. Many others stood outside the church, listening to the service over outdoor speakers.

Rev. Whiteford termed the trooper a "saved man, one who loved his savior and who was faithful in carrying out his duties."

To the law enforcement men and women, he added "We appreciate your dedication to law enforcement in this country today. These are treacherous days full of lawlessness, and we pay tribute to you all for your work."

An hour before the 10 a.m. service, patrol cars began filling the church parking lot and officers gathered on the lawn in front of the church. License plates identified officers as coming from Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, as well as

throughout Michigan.

The assemblage was led by several top state police officials from headquarters in East Lansing.

David DeVries, a brother who is a state trooper assigned to the Ionia post, was among pallbearers. Other pallbearers included Hugh Thomas, David Balash, William Smith, Lanny Tolly and William Jelier.

Following the memorial service, an honor guard escorted the body to Grand Rapids for graveside rites and burial. Another assemblage of law enforcement officers paid their last respects at the cemetery, where Trooper DeVries was buried with full military honors.

The slaying of Trooper DeVries was a double tragedy for the family in the last 10 months. His brother's wife is a sister of Mrs. Gary Rampey, widow of a trooper slain with another trooper near New Buffalo on Dec. 31, 1971.

The tragedy was compounded because of the role DeVries played as a second father to Rampey's young son. A Thursday night ritual of

playing basketball at Niles was cut short by the gunman on the first day DeVries was back on duty from his western hunting vacation, and the day he was to have played basketball with David Rampey.



**HUMANITARIAN AWARD:** Robert J. Molhoek (right) of St. Joseph, past president of Hemophilia of Michigan, presents organization's humanitarian award to State Sen. Charles O. Zollar (R-Benton Harbor). Zollar was cited for his efforts to improve the health and welfare of the citizens of Michigan and his leadership in providing improved care for hemophiliacs. Molhoek lauded Zollar for a special appropriation to increase blood products for treatment of hemophilia. Presentation was made at organization's annual meeting in Lansing.

## Albert Mayer, 64, Dies

Former Mayor  
Of New Buffalo



ALBERT MAYER

**NEW BUFFALO**—Former New Buffalo mayor and councilman, Albert Mayer, 64, died early Sunday morning shortly after being rushed to St. Anthony hospital, Michigan City.

He had served on the city council for nine years, the last four of them as mayor. He was mayor from 1966 until a recall election in January of this year. He was chairman of the Galien River Sanitary Sewer project and owner of the A & M party store in Union Pier.

Mr. Mayer was born Sept. 26, 1908, in Hammond, Ind., and moved to New Buffalo in 1960 from Calumet City, Ill.

Survivors include his widow, the former Marion Cronkright, whom he married June 6, 1931,

in Calumet City; two sons, Richard of Vancouver, British Columbia, and Paul of Coloma; five grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Wayland (Marion) Minks of Nokomis, Ill.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Smith funeral home, New Buffalo. The Rev. Donald W. Atchinson, pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake Catholic church, will officiate.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. in Elmwood cemetery, Hammond.

## U.P. TRAGEDY

### Wife Sees Husband, Little Girl Drown

**MUNISING, Mich. (AP)**—An Ogemaw County father's attempt to save his drowning daughter ended in tragedy Sunday according to State Police.

Clarence Hall, 35, dove into Lake Superior to save his 6-year-old daughter after she had toppled into the water from a ledge. Police described Hall as an excellent swimmer, but said he had entered the chilly water wearing a heavy snowmobile suit, and had become quickly fatigued and went under.

Hall, who lived in the Lower Peninsula community of Lupton, was unable to grab a branch his wife had extended to him. He and his daughter both drowned in plain view of Mrs. Hall.

Their bodies were recovered from about 10 feet of water an hour after the incident, six miles east of Munising. State Police said the girl had been walking along a ledge at the point where Miner's River enters Lake Superior.



**WARNING SYSTEM:** Van Buren Sheriff Richard Stump, right, and John Kakabeke of Kalamazoo examine radios that will be installed in most schools in county as part of an emergency weather warning system. (Staff photo)

## Resolution Opposes Park Plan

**NEW TROY**—The Weesaw township zoning board has adopted a resolution opposing plans of the county Parks and Recreation commission for a 400-acre park at Boyle lake on the Weesaw-Buchanan

township line. The zoning board's action Oct. 11 followed passage of a similar resolution by the township trustees Oct. 4. Both resolutions were voted after township residents appeared at

the meetings to protest the park development.

In its resolution, the zoning board charges that Boyle lake residents are opposed to the park because of potential pollution, noise, the need for

increased police patrols "and because the people doubt that the facilities will be available to local people when they desire to make use of them."

The proposed parkland is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald

Tichener of Buchanan.

The parks commission has announced plans to ask the county board of commissions for \$75,000 to match state and federal funds for parkland site acquisition and development.